

*The islands of Hawai`i are home to a unique population of migratory seabirds. During the October through December fledgling season, young birds leave their nests at night in search of ocean feeding grounds. Commonly believed to use the stars to navigate, seabirds sometimes become disoriented by urban lights or collide with structures and fall to the ground. These "grounded" seabirds then become prey to feral cats, dogs, mongoose, and vehicular traffic.*



MECO is partnering with DOFAW, NPS, and the County of Maui to address the seabird issue by initiating the development of a Save Our Seabirds (SOS) program. The initial step in the process is public awareness. Future plans include drop-off sites at select locations for injured birds, and a rehabilitation program.

Responsible lighting practices also play a critical role in protecting Hawai`i's seabirds. Under the County's 2007 Outdoor Lighting Bill, MECO has been requested by the County of Maui to upgrade street lighting on county roadways, making them seabird friendly. New street lights and upgraded shielded street lights are being installed throughout Maui County.

**To learn more about these seabirds, please visit:**  
**[www.mauicounty.gov/mayor/environment](http://www.mauicounty.gov/mayor/environment)**



**Maui Electric Company, Ltd.**  
*Giving you the power*



63M 8/08



*Aiding the effort to save  
Maui nui's seabirds*



*Ua`u  
Hawaiian Petrel (endangered)*



*Ua`u kani  
Wedge-Tailed Shearwater*



**Maui Electric Company (MECO) is working with the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW), National Park Service (NPS), and the County of Maui to save these federally and state-protected birds. We ask you to join with us in this effort. You can help by being on the lookout for grounded seabirds on all three islands of Maui County. Here are two found types of seabirds that are often grounded.**

Seabirds are easily recognizable



**Ua`u**  
*Hawaiian Petrel (endangered)*  
Nests at high elevations



**Ua`u kani**  
*Wedge-Tailed Shearwater*  
Nests at low elevations

They always have webbed feet



Their beaks are hooked at the tip

Young seabirds often have tufts of down on their heads or backs



## If a grounded seabird is found:

- Quietly approach the seabird from the rear and gently pick it up with a cloth or hat. Be careful the birds may bite.
  - Place it in a covered, well-ventilated cardboard box and keep it in a cool and shady place.
  - Do not give it food or water and be careful when handling the bird as it may bite.
- Immediately call 1-877-428-6911.
  - Do not release the seabird. It is important that trained wildlife specialists inspect the bird for injuries. They will decide when it is safe to release the bird.

